

March 6, 1991

LB 85

SENATOR MORRISSEY: We can't drag them to the polls but we should not, as the Constitution says, inhibit or obstruct their right to vote. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Madam President, are there any other lights on? Then I will make this my closing also and I will be brief. I just want to make a couple of points and one of them was mentioned earlier that we do already have mail-in registrations and this is what this really is, it's a mail-in registration. My parents just moved to Lincoln and had to reregister for maybe the first time in their lives, since they've always lived in Alma, but they were able to just simply call the Election Commissioner's office, ask for the forms, have them mailed out and mailed them back in once completed. It makes it much easier for people. My parents are very motivated voters and they would have probably taken the trouble to go to the Election Commissioner's office but some people may not be quite as motivated, although they're interested they may not be quite as motivated. They may forget about it until it's too late. And all we're doing is just sticking a form in the income tax booklet. We're just making it easier for people. I don't think you can judge ahead of time whether somebody who is registering is going to vote or not. We don't know that. We have to give them the benefit of the doubt. We have to assume they're going to vote if they're interested enough to register. So I would just encourage us to make it as easy as possible. I would be amenable, Senator Coordsen, to an amendment on Select File or simply working with the Revenue Committee to find the language for these forms that would let people know that this could be more than just a new registration, it could be a reregistration because of the three reasons that you reregister. I looked at the Redfield registration card here and it doesn't really give very explicit instructions about if your name has changed or your address has changed or your party has changed. So we will want to do something like that, I think, to include with this income tax booklet. With that, I would just say, thank you for your attention and your consideration and I would like to see this moved on to Select File. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schimek. We will now vote on the motion to advance LB 85. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Senator Schimek.